

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 5519

HB05519ED 031506

LCO No. 1878

February Session, 2006 Referred to Committee on Education Introduced by:

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2006) (a) There is established a
- Connecticut Loan Forgiveness program for teachers of mathematics
- 3 and science to be administered by the Department of Higher
- 4 Education.

(ED)

- 5 (b) Within available appropriations, the program shall provide a 6 student loan reimbursement grant for persons who (1) attended any 7 institution of higher education, (2) majored in education or an 8 education related field, and (3) are newly employed on or after January 9 1, 2006, but before January 1, 2007, as a teacher of mathematics or 10 science in an elementary or secondary school in Connecticut.
- 11 (c) Persons who qualify under subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of 12 this section shall be reimbursed on an annual basis for qualifying 13 student loan payments in an amount equal to ten per cent of approved 14 reimbursement award in the first year, fifteen per cent in the second
- 15 year, twenty per cent in the third year, twenty-five per cent in the

- 16 fourth year and thirty per cent in the fifth year of employment. In no
- 17 case shall any person be reimbursed more than twenty-five thousand
- dollars. A person qualifying under subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of
- 19 this section shall only be reimbursed for loan payments made while
- 20 such person is employed as a teacher of mathematics or science. The
- 21 Department of Higher Education shall develop eligibility requirements
- 22 for recipients of such reimbursements. Such requirements may include
- 23 income guidelines. Persons may apply for grants to the Department of
- 24 Higher Education at such time and in such manner as the
- 25 Commissioner of Higher Education prescribes.
- 26 (d) The recipients of reimbursements pursuant to this section for the
- 27 fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, shall constitute a cohort and
- 28 reimbursements for succeeding years shall only be available for
- 29 members of such cohort.
- 30 (e) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section
- 31 shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be available for
- 32 expenditure during the next fiscal year.
- 33 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, the Department of
- 34 Higher Education may use up to two per cent of the funds
- 35 appropriated for purposes of this section for program administration,
- 36 promotion and recruitment activities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2006	New section

ED Joint Favorable